

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/767,184

Examiner

Scott Au

Applicant(s)

FITZGIBBON, JAMES J.

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/24/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12 and 14-110.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance ✓
9. ☐ Other _____

Allowable Subject Matter

This communication is in response to applicant's Amendment which filed August 24, 2007 in the application of Fitzgibon for an "Image recognition facilitated movable barrier operations method and apparatus" filed January 29, 2004.

The amendment has been entered and made of record.

Claim 13 is cancelled.

Claims 1-12 and 14-110 are allowed as evident by applicant's amendment.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: According to independent claims 1 and 25, the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the apparatus and method that "an automatic image recognizer operably coupled to at least one of the movable barrier operator and the moveable barrier operator wireless remote control, the automatic image recognizer obtaining at least one image representative of an environment of a vehicle, the at least one image indicative of whether the vehicle is present in the environment relative to the moveable barrier operator".

Independent claims 56 and 80 are allowed for similar reasons to claims 1 and 25 above.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Bazakos et al. (US# 7,183,895) teach a system and method for dynamic stand-off biometric verification.

Sefton (US# 7,119,672) teaches a monitoring and access control system by capturing vehicle's license plate.


Alves (US# 6,747,687) teaches a system for recognizing the same vehicle at different times and places.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott Au whose telephone number is (571) 272-3063. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9:00AM – 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman can be reached at (571) 272-3059. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.



BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER